

# Drivers' action protects field from invasion

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**RESIDENTS** barricaded a field with their cars after they suspected travellers were eyeing up the land.

About a dozen cars were used to create a barrier between Hazel Close, Thorrington, and a field alongside it, which is due to be turned into a play area for youngsters.

The land, which covers just under two acres, is owned by Bovis Homes. It is due to be taken over by Tendring Council prior to a play area being built.

Residents created the barrier after spotting someone driving

- ☐ **Car on land sparks resistance movement**
- ☐ **Site set to be turned into a playground**

around on the land. Peter Scott, Thorrington ward councillor, said: "It was a wonderful outburst of resistance from the local community.

"They barricaded the road in Hazel Close and the field with their own vehicles.

"I would have thought there were about a dozen cars. They were nose-to-tail.

"One or more of the residents saw a vehicle come up to Hazel Close, drive on to the grass,

move around it and then drive off. They thought it was a reconnaissance for gypsies.

"As soon as the land is transferred, they are due to have a toddler's play area constructed on there. If the travellers had taken up occupation, this could have all been put back."

The cars were left for several days while arrangements were made for a fence to be put up around the land, by Tendring Council.

Nigel Brown, Tendring Council's communications manager, added: "Plans are now being prepared to permanently secure the area once the land has been handed over to the council."

## Windfarm helps launch competition

A **WINDFARM** being built off the coast of Clacton has been used as the site to launch a new worldwide competition.

A search to find the best new projects to develop the offshore wind industry was launched at the 48-turbine Gunfleet Sands development, four miles off

Clacton. The project is due to be completed early next year and will generate enough energy for about 120,000 households.

Climate Change Secretary Ed Miliband called on the offshore wind industry to seize the opportunity and enter the Carbon Trust competition.

He said: "We need low-carbon, secure energy supplies to ensure we meet our climate change goals."

Innovative designs are being sought to shape the future of offshore windfarms, with shortlisted entries getting up to £100,000 and winning designs being built.